Appln, No.: 10/659,262

REMARKS

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 87-110 are now pending in this application, with Claims 87, 92, 97, 102, 105, and 108 being independent. Claims 87, 92 and 97 have been amended herein and Claims 102-110 are newly-presented herein.

Independent Claims 87, 92 and 97 have been amended herein to clarify the scope of the claims. These claims, as well as the claims depending thereon, are believed to remain in condition for allowance.

Claims 102-110 are newly-presented to afford Applicants an increased scope of protection commensurate with the disclosure. Favorable consideration of the new claims is respectfully requested.

Favorable and early examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

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Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C.

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Respectfully submitted,

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MAW/ytr

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